

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1-24. (Canceled)

25. (New) A method for managing a defective area of a recording medium having a data area, a lead-in area and a lead-out area, the method comprising:

detecting a defective unit during reproducing or recording operation;

recording the data of the defective unit in a replacement unit; and

recording a defect management information in a defect management area, the defect management information including locator information, the locator information indicating positions of the defective unit and the replacement unit.

26. (New) The method as claimed in claim 25, further comprising:

recording an access pointer in the defect management area, the access pointer indicating position of the defect management information.

27. (New) The method as claimed in claim 26, wherein the defect management area includes a first part and a second part, and both the first and the second parts of the defect management area are assigned in the lead-in area respectively.

28. (New) The method as claimed in claim 27, wherein the replacement unit is included in a spare area, and the spare area is assigned in the data area.

29. (New) The method as claimed in claim 26, wherein the defect management area includes a third part, and the third part of the defect management area is assigned in the data area.

30. (New) The method as claimed in claim 28, wherein the spare area includes a third part of the defect management area.

31. (New) A method for managing a defective are of a recording medium having a data area, a lead-in area and a lead-out area; the method comprising:

- detecting a defective unit during reproducing or recording operation;
- recording the data of the defective unit in a replacement unit;
- recording a defect entry in a defect management area, the defect entry including locator information indicating positions of the defective area and the replacement area; and
- recording an access pointer in the defect management area, the access pointer indicating position of a defect management information including the defect entry.

32. (New) The method as claimed in claim 31, wherein the defect management area includes a first part and a second part, and both the first and the second parts are assigned in the lead-in area respectively.

33. (New) The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein the defect management area includes a third part, and the third part of the defect management area is assigned in the data area.

34. (New) The method as claimed in claim 31, wherein the replacement unit is included in a spare area, and the spare area is assigned in the data area.

35. (New) The method as claimed in claim 34, wherein the spare area includes a third part of the defect management area.

36. (New) A recording medium comprising:  
a data area including a spare area, the spare area including a replacement area;  
a lead-in area; and  
a defect management area, the defect management area including a first part and a second part, the first part of the defect management area being located in the lead-in area.

37. (New) The recording medium as claimed in claim 36, wherein the second part of the defect management area is assigned in the lead-in area, and the first part and the second part of the defect management area are assigned separately.

38. (New) The recording medium as claimed in claim 36, wherein the second part of the defect management area is assigned in the data area, and the second part of the defect management area includes at least one sub defect management area.

39. (New) The recording medium as claimed in claim 37, wherein the defect management area includes a third part, and the third part of the defect management area is assigned in the spare area.

40. (New) The recording medium as claimed in claim 38, wherein the defect management area includes a third part, and the third part of the defect management area is assigned in the spare area.

41. (New) A method for managing a defective unit of a recording medium having a data area, a lead-in area and a lead-out area, the method comprising:

detecting a defective unit during reproducing or recording operation;

recording the data of the defective unit in a spare area; and

recording a defect management information in a defect management area, the defect management area including a first part and a second part, the time for using the first part being different from the time for using the second part.

42. (New) The method as claimed in claim 41, wherein the first part and the second part of the defect management area are assigned in the lead-in area separately.

43. (New) The method as claimed in claim 41, wherein the first part of the defect management area is assigned in the lead-in area and the second part of the defect management area is assigned in the spare area.

44. (New) A recording medium comprising:  
a data area including a spare area, the spare area including a replacement area;  
a lead-in area; and  
a defect management area, the defect management area including a first part and a second part, the time for using the first part being different from the time for using the second part.

45. (New) The method as claimed in claim 44, wherein the first part and the second part of the defect management area are assigned in the lead-in area separately.

46. (New) The method as claimed in claim 44, wherein the first part of the defect management area is assigned in the lead-in area and the second part of the defect management area is assigned in the spare area.